

**Shelby County Fire Department
Headquarters
1075 Mullins Station Rd. Bldg. "C", 2nd floor
Memphis, TN 38134**



******* NOTIFICATION *******

November 12th, 2014

Shelby County Fire Department Receives Highest Rating Ever From Insurance Services

The Shelby County Fire Department is very proud to be able to announce that in its forty-two plus year history, it has received the highest rating ever for the services of fire suppression in areas of un-incorporated Shelby County and Lakeland, Tennessee. **“I commend the hard work of the members of the Shelby County Fire Department. It’s a testament to their skill and attention to details that have brought this level of grading to our residents. This was a difficult job well done,”** said Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

The Insurance Service Offices (ISO) is a leading source of property / casualty insurance risk data that provides information used by most insurance carriers throughout the United States. A recent study of the level of services and the capabilities of the Shelby County Fire Department, has seen their grades rise from what was a 5/9 class protection to a 3/3X. A Class 1 rating is the highest level of fire protection that a local government can provide with a 10 indicating little or no fire protection at all. **“We knew we would see improvements after the audit of our department was concluded. We were more pleased that our Class Rating had achieved these heights in the report.”** said Interim Fire Chief Dale Burress. **“We have a dedicated staff from top to bottom out here and I want to make sure that everybody from our administration through communications, inspections, investigations, mapping, and our engine companies know that they had a significant role in this wonderful news.”**

A Class 3 could be given to a structure that lies within five road miles from a SCFD station and/or 1,000 feet from a fire hydrant. A Class 3X would be a slight modification from that and given to a structure that is beyond those distances yet still remains under the protection of a paid, full-time, professional fire department. What this means is that because of the improved fire class ratings, nearly every one of the owners of the forty-three thousand structures within our areas of response, can approach their insurance carrier to request a reduction in their insurance costs after the 1st of February 2015 when the new Class Ratings take effect.

The Shelby County Fire Department is the primary responding agency for some 323.45 square miles of un-incorporated Shelby County and Lakeland. Geographically, this is 41.2% of the 785 square miles in all of Shelby County. Roughly 113,000 residents call these areas home and about 13,000 calls are answered every year or almost 36 each day. Based on these figures, roughly 1 of every 8.7 people receives the services of the Shelby County Fire Department each year in some way.

The attached map highlights the regions of un-incorporated Shelby County and Lakeland which are the areas of primary responsibility for the Shelby County Fire Department.

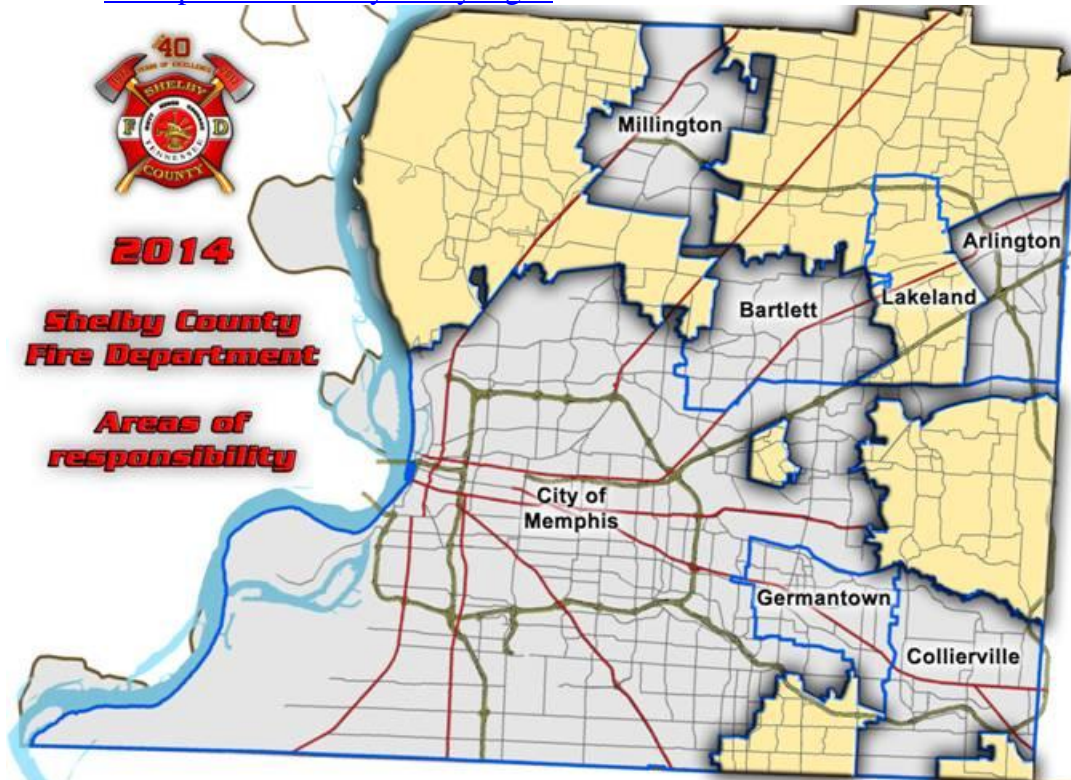
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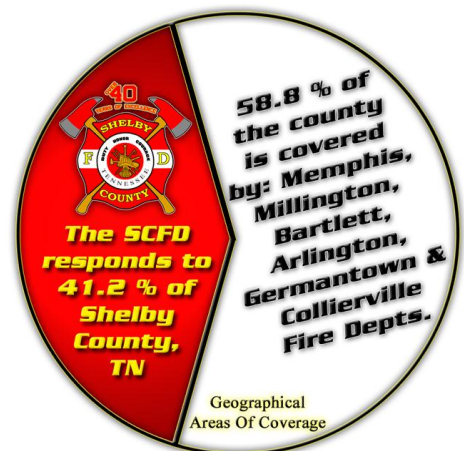


In the United States, there are about 30,130 Fire Departments with more than 1,141,000 paid full-time fire fighters. The state of Tennessee has about 725 fire departments in its 95 counties.

Shelby County, Tennessee has seven individual fire departments. They are Memphis, Millington, Arlington, Bartlett, Germantown, Collierville and Shelby County Fire Departments. The SCFD is the second-largest in the county with eight fire stations (nine engine companies) and about 170 full time employees.

On average, about every 45 to 50 minutes an emergency call into the SCFDs dispatch office is answered. This translates into about 13,000 calls that are processed each year in this department.

Knowing how your fire department functions is key to a better understanding of the application of emergency services. Here at the SCFD, your emergency is our priority. If you have



questions about the Shelby County Fire Department, please contact:

Brent W. Perkins, PIO/GIS

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